



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 9, 2017

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep older Arizonans and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight federal legislation or activities affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature.

Note: to get the most from this report, be sure to open the [links](#) throughout this issue for the latest news and information. Thank you for your interest!

53rd Arizona Legislature, First Regular Session

Today is day 60 of the session. March 24 is the next deadline – the last day for House consideration of Senate bills and Senate consideration of House bills. **April 14** is the last day for conference committees and **April 18** marks the 100th day of the session.

Summary of Action

More than 880 floor actions have been filed since the last issue; 74 of those are related to bills tracked by the Council. At this time, there are **1,056 bills posted, 19 bills passed; 3 Signed, 100 Memorials or Resolutions and 12 passed**. The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging tracks legislation that has the potential to impact older Arizonans. Those bills are featured in the **FULL List**. To view the web report, click [HERE](#).

NOTE: Please be advised that the presence of a bill on a tracking list **does not** represent support or opposition by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It **does** mean that the topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

Our web report provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information on all of the bills being tracked and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Be sure to ***click on the bill number for more information***. This list will continue to be edited and updated throughout the session. Bill information including description, status, hearings, etc. is part of a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*.

A few bills highlighted from the tracking list

HB2041: DHS; health care institutions; licensure – eliminates renewal licensure for health care institutions and requires the Department of Health Services Director to establish rules regarding the payment and late payment of licensing fees. Modifies information and documentation required to be submitted by an applicant for licensure as a health care institution. Senate Fact Sheet (2/27/2017) [HERE](#); recent action: 3/7 from Senate Rules Committee okay.

HB2042: DHS; fingerprinting requirements – exempts certain individuals who are employed by or who volunteer with a children's behavioral health program from fingerprinting requirements. Exempts an employee or contractor who provides services to residents or patients in a residential care or nursing care institution or a home health agency from fingerprinting requirements if the person has applied for a good cause exemption and if the person is providing services under the direct visual supervision of an owner or employee who has a valid fingerprinting clearance card. Senate Fact Sheet (2/27/2017) [HERE](#); recent action: 3/7 from Senate Rules Committee okay.

HB2323: critical health information; emergency responders – permits a county, city or town to establish a program to provide emergency responders with critical health information about program participants. Senate Fact Sheet (3/6/2017) [HERE](#); recent action: 3/9 from Senate Government Committee do pass.

H2408: disability parking; wheelchair users – designates specified van accessible parking as *wheelchair only* spaces and outlines requirements to park in designated wheelchair only spaces. Senate Fact Sheet [HERE](#); recent action: 3/7 Senate Transportation & Technology Committee held.

S1269: pharmacists; scope of practice – relating to expanded scope of practice for pharmacists. House Summary (3/7/2017) [HERE](#); recent action: 3/9 from House Health Committee do pass.

S1441: insurers; health providers; claims arbitration – allows an enrollee of a health plan who has received a surprise out-of-network bill and who disputes the amount of the surprise out-of-network bill to seek arbitration, provided that certain criteria are met. Senate Fact Sheet (3/1/2017) [HERE](#). Hearing on 3/13 at 2 pm, House Banking and Insurance, House Rm. 5.

Committee Members are listed on the Arizona State Legislature's website at:

<https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/CommitteeMembers>.

Committee Minutes can be found at:

<https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/DocumentSearch/C?SessionID=117>

Arizona State Legislature website: www.azleg.gov

Calendar & News link: <http://www.azleg.gov/alis-today/>

Need to learn more about the legislative process? See [Arizona Bill](#) or [Bill to Law](#).

Find and review bill information [HERE](#).

Learn about the budget process [HERE](#).

Research the State Constitution [HERE](#).

Learn more at *Frequently Asked Questions* linked [HERE](#).

If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you may voice your thoughts at any time by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at **602-542-4331 in Phoenix; 520-628-6580 in Tucson; in-state toll-free at 1-800-253-0883** (outside Maricopa County only) or email: engage@az.gov.
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: [Legislative Maps](#)

FEDERAL UPDATE

Updates

American Health Care Act was rolled out on 3/7/2017. Information can be found on the House Ways and Means Committee [website](#).

National Council on Aging/NCOA Statement on the American Health Care Act posted 3/7/2017 [HERE](#)

From the **Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation**

How Affordable Care Act Repeal and Replace Plans Might Shift Health Insurance Tax Credits
[HERE](#) (Updated on March 8, 2017)

Also: *Tax Credits under the Affordable Care Act vs. the American Health Care Act: An*

Interactive Map [HERE](#)

H.R.750

Ensuring Access to Quality Complex Rehabilitation Technology Act of 2017

Introduced on 1/30/2017 by Representative James F. Sensenbrenner Jr. (WI-5)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand and revise the classification of and payment for rehabilitation technology items under the Medicare program, and for other purposes. Text [HERE](#)

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

S.178

Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act

Introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa on 1/20/2017

The bill is intended to prevent elder abuse and exploitation and improve the justice system's response to victims in elder abuse and exploitation cases. (similar to **S.3270** tracked during the 114th Congress) The bill has bipartisan support as evidenced by co-sponsorship. On 2/9/2017 Committee on the Judiciary ordered **S.178** to be reported without amendment favorably.

S.178 includes support for federal cases involving elder justice, establishment of best practices for local, State and Federal data collection, effective interagency coordination and Federal data collection, enhanced penalty for telemarketing and email marketing fraud directed at elders, training and technical assistance for States, interstate initiatives, court-appointed guardianship oversight activities, GAO reports, outreach to State and local law enforcement agencies, model power of attorney legislation and best practices and model legislation for guardianship proceedings. Text [HERE](#)

Related bill: S.182 Court-Appointed Guardian Accountability and Senior Protection Act was introduced on 1/20/2017 by Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, a **cosponsor of S.178**. S.182 provides for the inclusion of court-appointed guardianship improvement and oversight activities under the Elder Justice Act of 2009. It has been referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Text [here](#). Both of these bills and [S.81](#) were included in the February 3, 2017 [issue](#) of the *Legislative Update*.

Other legislation

H.R.1316

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for pharmacy benefits manager standards under the Medicare prescription drug program and Medicare Advantage program to further transparency of payment methodologies to pharmacies, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 3/2/2017 by Representative Doug Collins (GA-9)

3/2/2017 Referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform

H.R.1290

Improving Access to Mental Health Act

Introduced on 3/1/2017 by Representative Barbara Lee (CA-13)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to mental health services under the Medicare program.

On 3/1/2017 Referred to the House Ways and Means

H.R.1289

Dorothy I Height and Whitney M. Young Jr., Social Work Reinvestment Act

Introduced on 3/1/2017 by Representative Barbara Lee (CA-13)

To establish the Social Work Reinvestment Commission to provide independent counsel to Congress and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on policy issues related to recruitment, retention, research, and reinvestment in the profession of social work, and for other purposes.

Text [HERE](#)

On 3/1/2017 Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

H.R.1284

Medicare Patient Access to Hospice Act of 2017

Introduced on 3/1/2017 by Representative Lynn Jenkins (KS-2)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the recognition of attending physician assistants as attending physicians to serve hospice patients, and for other purposes.

On 3/1/2017 Referred to the House Energy and Commerce

H.R.1260

Generational Residences and Nurturing Dwelling Act or the GRAND Act

Introduced on 2/28/2017 by Representative Jose E. Serrano (NY-15)

This bill establishes in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) a program to provide assistance for each fiscal year to up to five eligible nonprofit organizations to expand the supply of specialized housing and social services for qualified elderly relatives, age 60 or older, who are raising a child of whom they are not a parent either by blood or marriage. Text [HERE](#)

On 2/28/2017 Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

S.445

Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act of 2017

Introduced on 2/27/2017 by Senator Susan M. Collins (ME)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

On 2/27/2017 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.443

Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act

Introduced on 2/27/2017 by Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. (PA)

To amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and other laws to clarify appropriate standards for Federal employee discrimination and retaliation claims, and for other purposes. Text [HERE](#)

On 2/27/2016 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

S.427

Social Security Expansion Act

Introduced on 2/16/2017 by Senator Bernard Sanders (VT)

To enhance Social Security benefits and ensure the long-term solvency of the Social Security program. Text [HERE](#)

On 2/16/2017 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Related bill: H.R.1114

S.353

Preserve Access to Medicare Rural Home Health Services Act of 2017

Introduced on 2/13/2017 by Senator Susan M. Collins (ME)

This bill amends the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 to extend through 2022 the rural add-on, which is a payment increase for Medicare home health services furnished to patients in rural areas.

On 2/13/2017 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Budget Resolution for FY 17 – [S.Con.Res.3](#)

Congressional Record [HERE](#)

You can also check active (federal) legislation [HERE](#).

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your Representative or Senators by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

Contact the **White House**: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

ALSO: USA.gov provides contact information at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

NEWS& RESOURCES

[Kaiser Health News](#) morning briefings March 9, 2017

ALSO:

A Playbook For Managing Problems In The Last Chapter of Life [HERE](#)

Dentistry Advocates Aim To Fill Medicare Gaps [HERE](#)

For Some Hospice Patients, A 911 Call Saves A Trip To The ER [HERE](#)

‘Right-to-Try’ Laws Expose Dying Patients To Exploitation, Ethicists Warn
[HERE](#)

Note: other aging-related stories at: <http://khn.org/topics/aging/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/CDC

500 Cities: Local data for better health [HERE](#)

This project is collaboration between the CDC, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the CDC Foundation.

Latest Information!

2017 Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures: <http://alz.org/facts/>

Note: *Full Report* and *Infographic* available at the link provided.

National Alzheimer’s Project Act updated information can be found at:
<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

The Center on Aging & Work at Boston College

Fact of the Week – 2/27/2017 – 1 in 3 non-retirees age 50+ not taking steps to save for retirement health care costs

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. (2016) Health Care Costs in Retirement Survey among U.S. adults ages 50 and older. Retrieved from [this source](#).

From the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities/NASUAD**

Friday, 3/3/2017 Update

Disruptive Innovation in Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation

The Center for Health Care Strategies released a new issue brief which outlines the current state of Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services, including challenges and opportunities for improvement. It explores innovative alternative models being piloted by states and health plans across the country to expand NEMT options.

This brief, a product of the Complex Care Innovation Lab made possible by Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit, explores alternative transportation models piloted by states and health plans across the country, including the use of transportation network companies, such as Uber and Lyft, to augment NEMT services.

[click here](#) to read the full brief. (Direct link [HERE](#))

New Maps Based on National Study of Long-Term Care Providers

The Long-Term Care Statistics Branch (LTCSB) at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has released two new products using data from the 2014 wave of the National Study of Long-Term Care Providers (NSLTCP). The first is a map and PowerPoint of selected characteristics of residential care communities and residents in the United States. The second set is maps of selected characteristics of adult day services centers and participants in the United States. Characteristics include center ownership and chain status; disease specific programming, practices, and revenue sources; and participant functioning, health conditions, and adverse events.

[Click here](#) view the Residential Care Communities map.

[Click here](#) to view the Adult Day Service Center map.

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Arizona Partnership for Healthy Communities

<http://www.livewellaz.org/>

Local Initiatives Support Corp./LISC

March 2, 2017

Arizona Housing Alliance/Mobile Home Working Group - *Preserving and Expanding Mobile/Manufactured Home Communities: an Affordable Housing Solution* [HERE](#)

March 15

Finding Meaning While Living with Loss from 2:00 to 3:30 pm

Banner Sun Health Research Institute, 10515 W Santa Fe Drive, Morin Auditorium, Sun City, AZ 85351

Registration required; call **623-832-3248** to reserve space and materials.

March 24

Directions for Care: After the Dementia Diagnosis from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Banner Sun Health Research Institute, 10515 W Santa Fe Drive, Morin Auditorium, Sun City AZ 85351

Registration required; call **623-832-3248** to reserve space and materials.

March 30, 2017

Caregiver Day at the Capitol

11:30 – 2:00 pm (lunch provided to registered attendees)

Arizona Capitol Museum, 1700 W. Washington Street, Phoenix AZ,

Room #200

Register online at: <https://tinyurl.com/htzxhbr>

Learn more: www.AZCaregiver.org or call Cindy Findley at **602-542-6593**.

April 9-11, 2017

Arizona's 30th Annual Transit Conference, presented by AzTA and ADOT, Phoenix Airport Marriott; Registration [HERE](#)

Friday, April 21

Arizona Geriatric Society Annual Spring Conference *Keeping the Person in Person-Centered Geriatric Care*

Plaza Arboleda Conference Center in Tucson AZ

[Online registration](#)

Mark your calendar

May 5th – Governor Doug Ducey’s Youth Commission Youth Leadership Day at Grand Canyon University – Event is free for high school students and lunch will be provided. More information and registration **[HERE](#)**

May 12, 2017

2017 AOHC Oral Health Summit *Launching the Future of Arizona’s Oral Health*

Wigwam Resort, 300 E. Wigwam Blvd., Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

More information coming soon...

May 16-17, 2017

Philanthropy Southwest - Rural Funders of the Southwest Inaugural Gathering

St. David’s Foundation Innovation Center, Austin TX

More information [HERE](#)

In case you missed it last time...

From the **Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation**

Compare Proposals to Replace the Affordable Care Act [HERE](#)

(Note: includes key elements of the Affordable Care Act, Rep. Tom Price's Empowering Patients First Act, 2015, House Speaker Paul Ryan's A Better Way: Our Vision for a More Confident America, 2016, Senator Bill Cassidy's Patient Freedom Act, 2017, and Senator Rand Paul's Obamacare Replacement Act, 2017.)

[Kaiser Health News](#)

2/23/2017

Geriatricians Can Help Aging Patients Navigate Multiple Ailments [HERE](#)

From **AARP**

[Experiences with Work](#)

Sarah Kerman and Colette Thayer, AARP Research, January 2017

Ongoing Resources

From the **Governor's Office**

See the latest news

Newsroom: <http://azgovernor.gov/newsroom>

#AZAWESOME Shareables: <http://azgovernor.gov/governor/shareables>

AHCCS News & Updates:

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/news.html>

Arizona Department of Economic Security Feature Stories [HERE](#)

Arizona Attorney General's Senior Resources [HERE](#)

Arizona Department of Health Services

Public Health Licensing [HERE](#)

Arizona Healthy Aging (A- HA) [HERE](#)

Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging/AZ4A

Map of Regions [HERE](#)

State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) – free health benefit counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their families or caregivers.

More information [HERE](#)

Just in case

If you wish to share our tracking list, here is the link to the web report.

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25801&listid=61524&print=true>

Past issues of the *Legislative Updates* are linked on the Council website at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

You can help circulate resource information. If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description and a link or pdf document to: gaca@az.gov. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including marketing or fundraising materials.

It is our intent to offer the *Legislative Update* at least every other week during the session.

Based on staffing, we're sending this early. Enjoy your weekend!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: gaca@az.gov and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

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